



IVH County Newsletter

128 years of service to the Veterans of Iowa

A Message From the Commandant

The Iowa Veterans Home enjoys great support from the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs. Several months ago, we requested a \$6,000 grant from the Commission to update our website, create new brochures, and develop a DVD to help market the IVH. The Commission voted to use funds from the license fee fund to provide IVH the grant. As you know, those license fee funds must be used to benefit Iowa veterans.

Our IVH Marketing Committee, led by Mike Hines, spent many hours evaluating how we communicate to veterans and their families. Just like every other veteran benefit, veterans don't know enough about the Iowa Veterans Home!

We have completed the DVD, and it's now posted on our website. I would encourage you to spend 15 minutes to watch the video, as we believe this is a powerful tool for you to use with veterans and families who are asking about nursing home care. As always, thanks for your support to IVH!

Jodi



Commandant Tymeson



Iowa Veterans Home
1301 Summit Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158

IVH County Newsletter

September, 2015

Special points of interest:

- *WWII Monument Update*
- *Dack Renovation Update*
- *Nursing Home Care Cost for Veterans Service Connected*

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A Message from the Administrator

Where has summer gone? It seems like time flies when you're having fun!

This has been a good year and IVH continues to make strides with remodeling and various construction projects that are needed to maintain our campus. We anticipate the remodel of Dack to be completed in June of next year. Resident's are already looking forward to having their individual private rooms and bathrooms. Our annual survey from the Department of Veterans Affairs went well with a few suggestions which we were able to do while they were still here.

We are now anticipating our visit from the Department of Inspections and Appeals for their annual survey along with the State Fire Marshal. Here at IVH, we continue to work hard every day providing quality care and services to and for the residents. By setting high expectations, we see better outcomes overall making IVH a provider of choice for veterans and their spouses.

MJ



Mike Jarrell

IVH Admission Team

Aaron Polley, RN, Admissions Supervisor

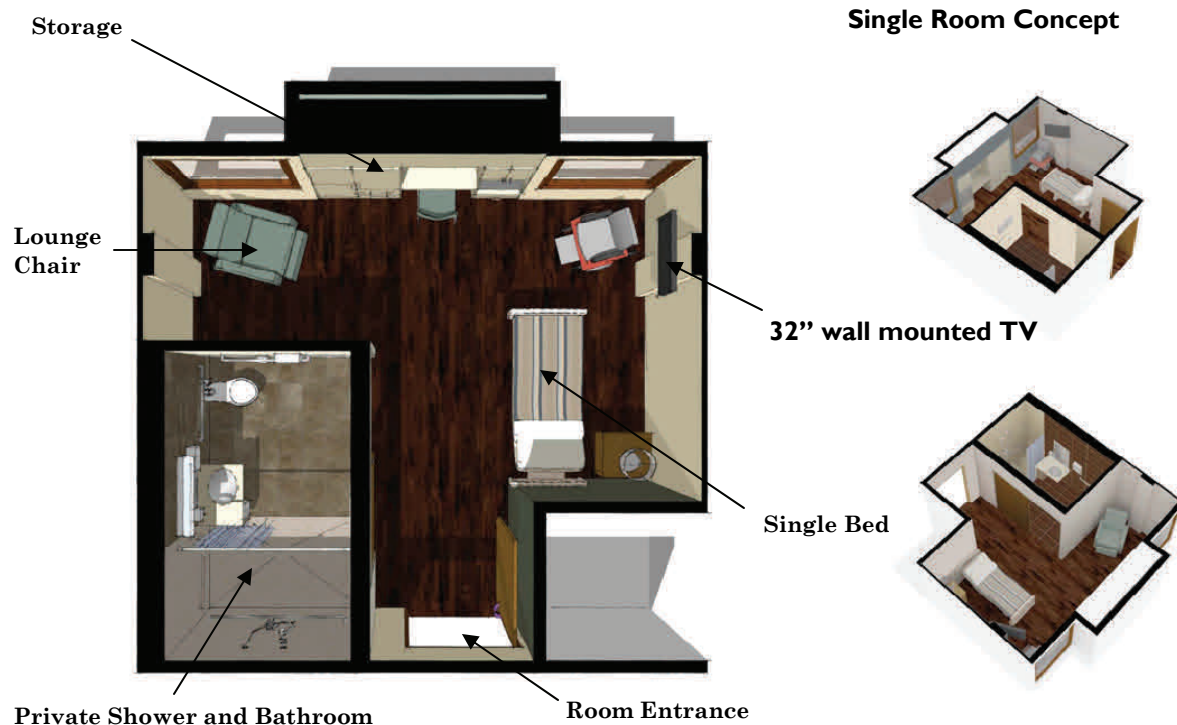
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Dack Renovation continues to show dedication to improving quality of life and care!

The weather has been great all spring and summer so far as the construction workers and contractors involved in the Dack project continue to progress. As the work continues with mechanical and electrical demolitions, wall studs are currently being installed on the second floor. With a estimated completion of June 2016, the Dack building will have been transformed from double bed occupancy to all single bed occupancy to include a couple suites on each of the units. This partnership of the Federal VA and the State of Iowa, shows that the IVH leadership is dedicated toward improving the quality of life and improving nursing level of care for our veterans and spouses! IVH currently accepts veterans, spouses and surviving spouses that meet the Residential and Nursing level of care.



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Federal Regulations Covering Nursing Care Cost for Veterans Service Connected

The Code of Federal Regulations is an arrangement of general and permanent rules published in the *Federal Register* by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. Federal regulations are specific details, directives, or requirements with the force of law enacted by the federal agencies necessary to enforce the legislative acts passed by Congress.

The CFR is divided into 50 titles representing broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each Title is divided into chapters that are assigned to agencies issuing regulations pertaining to that broad subject area. Each chapter is divided into parts and each part is then divided into sections -- the basic unit of the CFR. The CFR Title 38 (Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief) consists of 2 volumes, Chapters I-II. Chapter I (Department of Veterans Affairs) consists of PARTS 0-17, 18-77 as PARTS 78-199 are reserved. Chapter II (Armed Forces Retirement Home) consists of PART 200 (200.1 through 200.8).

It is important to know that the Department of Veterans Affairs will pay up to 100% of Nursing Home Care cost for a Veteran who is eligible and is classified as 70% or greater disabled due to a service related disability and is in need of long-term nursing care at a State Veterans Home. This also applies for those rating of total disability based on individual unemployability and are in need of nursing home care. As we continue to educate other healthcare facilities and veterans alike, we ask that all County Directors and Administrators of Veterans Affairs in Iowa be made aware of this benefit. As the state of Iowa continues to grow older this benefit should be made available throughout our state. Education is the key! Chapter II, part 51 (Per Diem for Nursing Home Care of Veterans in State Homes explains the eligibility of service connected veterans.

Title 38, Chapter II, Part 51.41 (Contracts and provider agreements for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities):

(a) *Contract or VA provider agreement required.* VA and State homes may enter into both contracts and provider agreements. VA will pay for each eligible veteran's care through either a contract or a provider agreement (called a "VA provider agreement"). Eligible veterans are those who:

- (1) Are in need of nursing home care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability, or
- (2) Have a singular or combined rating of 70 percent or more based on one or more service-connected disabilities or a rating of total disability based on individual unemployability and are in need of nursing home care.

For all others the cost of stay is calculated based on the ability to pay. The IVH is a Medicaid Certified facility and complies with those guidelines. We have dedicated members of our Resident Finance staff that work as a liaison between our residents, their families and our DHS Income Maintenance Worker to establish Medicaid eligibility for those meeting the requirements. Please contact the Admissions Office for more information regarding the cost of care.

Definitions relevant to the Iowa Veterans Home

Acutely mentally ill means any disturbance of emotional equilibrium manifested in maladaptive behavior and impaired functioning caused by genetic, physical, chemical, biological, psychological, social or cultural factors which requires hospitalization.

Ambulatory means the condition of a person who immediately and without aid of another is physically or mentally capable of traveling a normal path to safety, including the ascent and the descent of stairs.

Dangerous to self or others means any activity by a member which would result in injury to the member or others.

Dependent means a person for whose financial support an applicant or member is legally responsible or obligated.

Full Support means the maximum daily rate of support times the billable days of care received in any month less any offsets.

Nonambulatory means the condition of a person who immediately and without aid of another is not physically or mentally capable of traveling a normal path to safety, including the ascent and descent of stairs.

Surviving Spouse means a person who is the legal or common-law wife or husband of a veteran.

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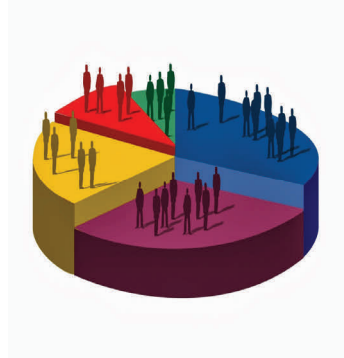
Resident Population

Our resident population (census) continues to remain constant; with census being between 560 and 565 residents daily. As we continue to promote our mission throughout the great state of Iowa, our Marketing Committee continues to find strategic means to ensure that all honorably discharged veterans, spouses and surviving spouses are aware of the benefits they have earned.

- **561 Residents**
Male Veterans - 459
Female Veterans - 16
Spouses - 89
- **War Periods Represented**

WWII - 71
Korea - 101
Vietnam - 208
Gulf - 5
Peace - 91

As of August 2015



Bed Capacity

Residential Level of Care—113
Nursing Level of Care—495 of
which 120 beds are memory care
(45 secure & 75 non-secure)

War Report by percentage

44% - Vietnam War
21% - Korean War
19% - Peace
14% - World War II
2% - Gulf



IVH World War II Memorial Monument Update by Michael Hines Staff Assistant to the Commandant

It is not only a honor to serve Iowa veterans and their spouses everyday, but it has been a honor to be part of the IVH World War II monument project plans to erect a “long overdue” recognition. This will be a monument that will honor all Iowa World War II era veterans. As I talked back in June, our plan was on target and as of today it remains on target but most importantly the granite is in Newton, Iowa!! It will now go into the “etching phase” as I refer to it. So therefore it is in the hands of the artist to do what she does best. The artist has 20 years plus experience and background in this business. I’m confident that our monument will stand out!

There have been bids from local contractors and businesses for cost estimates for a electric sign (exact design and color of the existing Korean & Vietnam signage) and of course concrete. It is our goal to have footings completed within in the next few months. The whole project will still be ongoing probably into October, depending on how fast the sign can be manufactured and the concrete laid. As donations continue to be received, we would

like to thank everyone involved especially the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance, service organizations, ELKS, families of Word War II veterans, local businesses and donors in general. ***Thank You!!***



The month of August was the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Airborne!

**WW II U.S. Rangers
Rangers Lead The Way!**

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Nursing versus Residential level of care

The Iowa Veterans Home offers two levels of care, Nursing and Residential. The Veterans Affairs classifies Residential Care as Domiciliary Care. Nursing and residential types of care bring a unique type of care to the healthcare field and to the veterans and spouses in the state of Iowa. The Iowa Veterans Home is a heavily regulated healthcare facility with annual surveys from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA). These inspections consist of the facilities physical environment, quality of care for the residents, quality of life, employees, residents rights, policy and procedures, dietary and safety just to name a few categories that are a very important to our mission here at the home.

To differentiate between the two levels of care at IVH we follow separate guidelines determined by the Iowa Administrative Code 481 (Inspections & Appeals), Chapter 57, Residential Care Facilities and Chapter 58, Nursing Care Facilities respectively.

In the residential level of care, the resident has ability to care for his or her own personal needs with the exception of medication and meals. A residents medication at the residential and nursing level of care may be self administered by the order of their physician, otherwise medications are dispensed by the nursing staff. There are a number of criteria to help with the assessment for a self-administration. For instance, is the resident that is receiving medicines willing to participate, does the resident appear confused or forgetful, can the resident read prescription labels, can he/she open the containers, does the resident know the correct dosage.

Monitoring of the residents Activities of Daily Living, better known as ADLs in the healthcare field, is a constant overseeing for all residents, regardless of the level of care. A slow decline of ADLs can be very frustrating to a resident but yet will seem routine to us. There is a small field of ADLs as one might consider bathing, grooming activities such as shaving, brushing their teeth and combing your hair everyday normal everyday activities but can be quite challenging for a resident who struggles with these activities. Other ADLs can hinder a residents eating, being able to feed oneself, transferring, being able to walk, or, if not ambulatory, being able to transfer oneself from bed to wheelchair and back. Continence is being able to control one's bowels and bladder, or manage one's incontinence independently and being able to use the toilet. Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) can play a role in the level of care such as using the telephone, preparing meals, maintaining the home, managing finances and being able to shop for groceries and other small necessities to include transporting purchases from store to home.

If a resident needs assistance with at least three of these ADLs, he or she will then more than likely qualify for nursing level of care. At this level of care the resident will require continuous nursing supervision and/or assistance in the areas of physical needs and activities of daily living. Nursing care will always have a trained nurse on duty and must offer 24-hour nursing care in addition to personal care.

Denial of Applicants. In accordance with Iowa Code, Chapter 35D (Veterans Home), **35D.2 Right to admission, paragraph 2.** 2. A person shall not be received or retained in the home who has been diagnosed by a qualified mental health professional as acutely mentally ill and considered dangerous to self or others, is an acute inebriate, or is addicted to the use of drugs, and whose documented behavior is continuously disruptive to the operation of the facility.

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Web Page Upgrades Continue at IVH!

The world of the internet and social media continues to allow businesses and companies to market and advertise employment, promote their product, their services and their brand. This electronic word of mouth has become a large asset when educating our veterans and spouses throughout the great state of Iowa. The Iowa Veterans Home Marketing Committee has been working hard to fill some gaps in our marketing needs as we continue to strive to educate those veterans that need long term care. Our latest upgrade is our new 15 minute testimonial DVD with interviews with residents, staff and a family member about the Iowa Veterans Home. Our decisions that our staff have made over past several years have led to a better quality of life for many of our veterans and spouses of residents. Those decision have factored into the placement of many veterans and spouses at the Iowa Veterans Home.

Commandant Tymeson and the Marketing Committee of the Iowa Veterans Home would like to thank the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs for the Iowa License Plate Fee Fund grant. The \$6,000 grant has been used to upgrade our web page, develop new brochures for IVH and Volunteer Services for handouts and the cost of the DVD. There are many folks to thank but the Marketing Committee would like to say a special thanks to the video producer, Craig Schwartz, with assistance from Jenny Parker. Craig has filmed several events and recreational activities for our facility for the past 3 years. We appreciate his efforts and his dedication and loyalty towards to our veterans. Some of these segments may be seen on the local Marshalltown Cable Network only.

The DVD has been added to our webpage for viewing. Please feel to share with all veterans and their spouses in your counties. To view just log onto <http://ivh.iowa.gov>. which will bring you to the "HOME" tab. The below screen shot is about half way down page. Click on the video and enjoy! Be sure to like us on Facebook!!



<https://www.facebook.com/iowaveteranshomepage>



<http://ivh.iowa.gov/>

Providing high quality of care exceptional quality of life